CHARLES JOSEPH LA TROBE: A CHRONOLOGY

By

L.J. Blake and R. Gill

(Edited with some corrections and additions by Helen Armstrong)

1801
20 March C.J. La Trobe was born at Kirby Street, London, the son of Moravian minister Christian Ignatius La Trobe and his wife Hannah (née Sims). Educated at the Moravian Fulneck School near Leeds, and the Fairfield Boys Boarding School near Manchester, he later taught at Fairfield.

1809
9 February Sophie de Montmollin born at Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

1821
24 July Rose Isabelle de Montmollin born at Valengin, Switzerland.

1824
24 October Charles La Trobe resigned from Fairfield to travel to Switzerland, where he was based in Neuchâtel, pursuing his personal interests, travelling and writing.

1825-26 He developed strong interests in geology, botany and mountaineering.

1827
February Completed more than two years of private study and adventure.

1829
His first book, The Alpenstock, or Sketches of Swiss Scenery and Manners, was published.

1832
The Pedestrian, A Summer’s Ramble in the Tyrol was published.

1832-33 With his protégé Count Albert de Pourtalès and American author Washington Irving, La Trobe made a six months journey across North America.

1834 With Count Albert de Pourtalès and Charles M’Euen, friend of a Baltimore cousin, La Trobe made a four months journey to Mexico.

1835 The Rambler in North America was published in London. La Trobe stayed with Frederic-Auguste de Montmollin at Jolimont near Lake Neuchâtel.

16 September La Trobe married Sophie, daughter of de Montmollin and his wife Rose (née de Meuron), in Berne, Switzerland.

1836 The Rambler in Mexico was published in London.

6 May Death of Christian Ignatius La Trobe.

29 September Captain William Lonsdale arrived in Melbourne to take up duty as police magistrate for Port Phillip.
1837
British Government sent La Trobe to report on ways of assisting former slaves in the West Indies to adjust to their freedom.

2 April
Agnes Louisa La Trobe was born at Neuchâtel.

10 October
Report 'Negro Education in Jamaica' presented by La Trobe to the Government.

1838
14 April
Report 'Negro Education in the Windward & Leeward Islands' presented.

14 August
Report 'Negro Education in British Guiana & Trinidad' presented.

1839
- January
La Trobe appointed Superintendent of Port Phillip District.

24 March
He embarked with his wife Sophie and daughter Agnes at London on the Fergusson, Captain Robertson.

31 March
Voyage to Australia begun.

25 July
Landed at Sydney.

10 September
La Trobe's appointment as Superintendent of the Settlement and District of Port Phillip proclaimed.

16 September
He sailed from Sydney in Pyramus, Captain Livesay.

30 September
Reached Hobson's Bay, where Captain William Lonsdale of the 4th Regiment welcomed him.

1 October
Landed in Melbourne where the population was now about 3,500.

3 October
La Trobe assumed office as Superintendent.

9 November
Laid foundation stone of St James Church of England.

19 November
His prefabricated cottage was erected on the Police Paddock, southeast of Spring Street.

- -
Land sales boom began this year.

1840
14 February
With Nicholas Fenwick, La Trobe visited Geelong.

15 February
He rode to Point Henry and Buckley's Cave.

17 February
Then to Hurst and Tuckfield's Barwon Mission station.

16 March
La Trobe visited Ryrie's Station at Yering.

10 June
He purchased at auction 12½ acres (5 hectares) where his cottage had been erected.

11 June
Port Phillip Patriot newspaper reported on the first petition to Queen Victoria for separation of Port Phillip District from New South Wales.

26 July
With Captain Lonsdale, La Trobe rode around Western Port to Bass River.

1 August
On the way home he passed No Good Damper waterhole (Springvale), midway between the Yarra River and Dandenong Creek.
1840

30 August  With Eliot Heriot, he rode to Cape Schanck, and visited the site of the Sullivan Bay settlement.
31 August  With Major Anderson, F.M. Powlett and Hugh Jamieson, he visited the Goulburn River.
24 November With Lonsdale and Charles Tyers, he climbed Station Peak in the You Yangs.
30 December  The *Port Phillip Herald* was first published as a morning newspaper in Melbourne.

1841

This year a period of depression set in, following the boom of 1839-40.

- January  La Trobe visited Geelong, Indented Head and Shortland’s Bluff.
  13 May   With G. Barton rode to Buninyong, thence
  15 May   to Mt. Emu, Fiery Creek, Lake Buloke, Hopkins River and on
  16 May   to The Grange (Hamilton).
  17 May   To Stephen Henty's at Portland.
  20 May   He began the homeward journey as far as George Airey's (Lal Lal),
  25 May   then rode home via Kiela (Keilor).
  2 July   To Barwon Mission station in the Otway Ranges.
  6 July   Back at Geelong, he returned by the steamer *Aphrasia* to Melbourne.
  15 July  Overlander Edward Bell appointed aide-de-camp to the Superintendent.
  12 August The first Elizabeth Street Post Office was opened.
  25 September La Trobe rode to Mollison's Coliban station and Parker's Aboriginal Mission station by Jim Crow Creek.
  28 September To Mitchellstown, then along the Sydney Road via Kilmore and Beveridge's.
  - September First Customs House building completed in Melbourne this month.
  23 October  Sir George Gipps, Governor of New South Wales made his official visit to Port Phillip District.
  26 October  The official party sailed down the Bay on the *Aphrasia* to Geelong; visited Fyansford, Barrabool Hills and Corio.
  27 October  Governor Gipps, at a ball in Melbourne, exhorted all present to 'Advance Australia'.
  - -  La Trobe instituted relief work for the unemployed this year.
  23 November He took his family to Williamstown for two weeks’ holiday.
  - -  Government offices were established in buildings on Batman's Hill, bought for £200.
  15 December  Melbourne Market opened (on Western Market site).
  - -  Gold was found in the Plenty Ranges during 1841-42.

1842

- January  La Trobe appointed Henry E.P. Dana to establish a Native Police Corps.
  16 January  La Trobe travelled to Murray's station at Colac, to Corangamite and the Border Police Station.
  20 January  From the Weatherboard to the Moorabool River and home.
1842

1 February  First performance in the Theatre Royal, Melbourne.
30 March  Eleanora Sophia La Trobe was born.
21 July  To Le Soeuf's Aboriginal Station by the Goulburn River.
   - July  With Powlett and Campbell, La Trobe climbed Mount Macedon.
12 August  Melbourne was incorporated.
17 September  La Trobe to Geelong with Nicholas Fenwick, to the mouth of the Barwon, then Shortland's Bluff.
31 October  He again visited Mollison's station (Malmsbury and Pyalong area).
2 November  Climbed Mount Alexander (the unsuspected location of a future goldfield).
3 November  To Hepburn's station (Smeaton).
4 November  To Stieglitz, and thence home.
1 December  Elections were held for the first Melbourne Town Council.

1843

5 January  First Constitution Act proclaimed in Sydney. Port Phillip to have five members in the New South Wales Legislative Council.
28 February  La Trobe rode to Lake Colac and the Border Police Station,
1 March  through the Stony Rises to Lake Purrumbete, thence Mount Shadwell, and to Mount Rouse Aboriginal Station;
2 March  by Mount Napier to Eumeralla River and Mount Eccles;
3 March  to Port Fairy;
4 March  to Portland;
6 March  to the Glenelg River and Muntham;
7 March  to The Grange (Hamilton);
8 March  to the foot of the Grampians, then back to Melbourne.
20 June  Mary Cecilia (Cécile) La Trobe was born.
11 August  La Trobe visited Baxter's and Point Nepean with Powlett, then
16 August  to Merrick's.
19 December  Set off with Sir John & Lady Franklin and Powlett,
21 December  reached Mt Franklin where they watched an Aboriginal corroboree;
22 December  To Smeaton's then Beveridge's, and
24 December  via Bacchus Marsh, Pyke's and Keilor to home.
29 December  Franklin climbed Arthur's Seat, 40 years after his first visit.

1844

3 February  Sophie and the children went to Shortland's Bluff (Queenscliff) for a holiday.
10 April  La Trobe to Dandenong.
30 April  He visited Geelong and thence rode on to Portland;
9 May  To Merino Downs. On the way home, between Portland and Port Fairy, he saw 'the stranded boat' (the mahogany ship).
1844

6 August  La Trobe at the Heads (Shortland's Bluff) till 9th.
17 October  To Geelong and Buntingdale Mission.
9 November  With George Airey via Kilmore to Murchison's; later to Tallarook and Seymour.
18 November  With Captain Bunbury he climbed Mount William.
20 November  On the way back he visited Goldsmith's station at Trawallo.
10 December  To the Heads till 13th. Planning and building his cottage on Shortland's Bluff.

1845

2 January  To the Heads. The three-room cottage stood on the highest ground at the north end of Bluff (now the site of St. George's Church, Queenscliff).
- January  La Trobe had a bad fall at Lonsdale's place in Melbourne.
19 January  He was at the Heads till 23rd.
1 February  Again at the Heads till 5th.
17 February  To Geelong.
22 February  To the Heads till 24th.
28 February  La Trobe set out for Gippsland with Captain Dana;
4 March  they reached Port Albert, the
7 March  Eagle Point and the Border Police station.
8 March  To Lake King. La Trobe named the Franklin and Agnes Rivers on this Gippsland journey.
11 March  Return journey begun.
15 March  He went to the Heads until 19th.
23 April  Daughter Agnes sent home on the Rajah to Switzerland to be educated, aged just eight.
3 May  To Powlett's Station (near Macedon) with Captain Dana.
4 May  To Parker's Aboriginal Station.
5 May  Through the Pyrene Ranges to Decameron station (Navarre),
9 May  Reached Edward Henty's at Muntham;
10 May  stayed at Merino Downs,
14 May  visited the 'New Port' (Warrnambool) and chose the 'site for a village'.
15 May  He commenced the return journey via Lake Terang, Colac, Station Peak, Werribee.
2 June  Melbourne Argus first published; it grew strongly critical of La Trobe.
7 October  He set out on the first attempt to find a way through the Ranges to Cape Otway.
1 November  Journey to Cape Schanck (Barker's).
3 December  With Dana, he made a second attempt to reach Cape Otway; Port Campbell visited.
25 December  Charles Albert La Trobe born.
1846

22 February  La Trobe took his family to the cottage at the Heads until 24th.
28 February  To the Heads until 29th.
13 March  La Trobe laid the foundation stone of the Melbourne Hospital.
-  -  During this month John Arthur appointed first curator of the Botanic Gardens, for which La Trobe decided the site in 1845.
22 March  To the Heads until 25th.
27 March  He set off on the third attempt to reach Cape Otway;
31 March  reached the Gellibrand River, and finally
2 April  reached Cape Otway; camped by Johanna River.
5 April  Visited the Lubras' Cave, then began the journey back.
17 April  To the Heads until 20th.
18 June  La Trobe laid the foundation stone of St Peter's Church, Eastern Hill.
12 July  He visited Dandenong.
28 July  To Buntingdale Mission.
24 August  To Sydney for discussions with Governor FitzRoy.
27 August  At Sydney until 6 October, when he departed for Melbourne.
6 October  Appointed acting Administrator of Van Diemen's Land in place of Sir Eardley Wilmot who had been dismissed as Governor.
9 October  To Launceston, thence Hobart Town by 13th.
  - November  He made a tour of inspection of the northern region of Van Diemen's Land.
6 December  Before this date he had visited the Tasman Peninsula and the Port Arthur convict settlement.
19 December  He set off to visit the west coast of Van Diemen’s Land.

1847

7-17 January  Sometime between these dates he ascended Mount Wellington.
29 January  Arrival of the new Governor of V.D.L., Sir William Denison.
10 February  La Trobe left Hobart on a slow journey back to Melbourne;
23 February  reached Williamstown.
  - March  Orders-in-Council issued in England; these dealt with squatters' pre-emptive rights on stations and land tenure.
31 May  Report on the Present state and prospects of the Convicts in Van Diemen's Land was presented to the British Government.
10 June  La Trobe to Geelong.
25 June  Melbourne was proclaimed a city.
16 July  La Trobe rode to Mount Rouse via Fyansford, Leigh River, and Frenchman's Inn; he returned via the Hopkins Inn, Elephant Inn, Wardy Yallock and Corio (24th).
10 September  He rode to Geelong with Marley,
15 September  climbed Station Peak, returned to Melbourne.
1847
26 November With Grimes and Major F.B. St John, Crown Lands Commissioners, he visited Narre Warren; then
27 November with Grimes to Bunyip and Anderson's Creek;
28 November to Moe-Moe; saw Narrecoon bridge;
29 November reached Morwell River; then Snake Ridges on 30th;
1 December commenced journey back to Melbourne.
11 December He visited Geelong, Barrabool Hills and vineyards.
13 December He journeyed to Mt Mercer;
14 December to Learmonth’s, Buninyong, and Goldsmith's at Trawallo;
16 December back via the Pentland Hills, Bacchus Marsh, and Keilor.

1848
10 January To Coliban (Malmsbury area); then
11 January to Carlsruhe and Grimes Border Police station.
23 January Arrival in Melbourne of Bishop Perry.
10 March La Trobe set off via the Pentland Hills to Buninyong;
11 March to Decameron station;
13 March through Rose's Pass (Gap) in the Grampians to the Black Range.
14 March He saw the McKenzie and Norton Rivers, Mount Zero and Mount Talbot and rode on to the Glenelg River;
15 March to Pigeon Ponds and The Chetwynd; and
18 March to Cape Bridgewater on the south coast.
19-20 March He was at Portland;
21 March to Warrnambool village, thence Terang and on to Story's Inn.
14 April To Geelong till 17th.
22 April To Geelong till 25th.
1 April He moved his cottage at the Heads to Jolimont.
26 September He rode to Carlsruhe and on to Mitchell's Barfold station; then
28 September to Jeffrey's (future site of Kyneton), and
30 September returned via Mt Aitken and Keilor.
1 December To Geelong until 14th.
- During 1848 Thomas Chapman found gold on Daisy Hill station (south of Maryborough).

1849
20 January La Trobe went with Dana to Geelong.
21 January En route to Cape Otway, he found Buntingdale abandoned.
22 January Rode through the peppermint forest and the fern-tree forest, and
23 January reached Cape Otway lighthouse.
26 January He arrived at Moonlight Head after much difficult travelling, and
29 January after more exploring arrived at Warrnambool.
30 January Visited the Merri River and Special Survey, rode on to Port Fairy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31 January</td>
<td>Reached Portland.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 February</td>
<td>With Learmonth he visited Eumeralla.</td>
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<td>3 February</td>
<td>Set off to travel to Muston's Creek, Farrell's Inn by the Hopkins River, Taddy Thomson's at Flery Creek, then</td>
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<td>4 February</td>
<td>to Travallo (Goldsmith's), and</td>
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<td>5 February</td>
<td>by Buninyong, Ballan, Bacchus Marsh and Keilor to home.</td>
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<td>12-22 March</td>
<td>Sir Charles FitzRoy, Governor of New South Wales, made his official visit to Port Phillip District. He consented to La Trobe sending on any vessel arriving with convicts on board.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>La Trobe to Geelong till 4th.</td>
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<td>9 May</td>
<td>To Geelong till 15th.</td>
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<td>21 May</td>
<td>To Geelong till 25th.</td>
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<td>8 August</td>
<td>When the convict transport Randolph arrived in Hobson’s Bay, La Trobe had it sent on to Sydney. Subsequently the transport Adelaide was turned back at the Heads.</td>
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<td>29 August</td>
<td>To Dandenong till 31st.</td>
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<td>17 October</td>
<td>He visited Powlett's station near Macedon.</td>
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<td>20 October</td>
<td>With Dana he passed Maiden Hills and Mount Beckwith on the way to Goldsmith's.</td>
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<td>22 October</td>
<td>Arrived at the new village of Kyneton.</td>
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<td>23 October</td>
<td>Visited Pyramid Hill.</td>
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<td>28 November</td>
<td>Werribee River flooded. La Trobe could not reach Wedge's huts and had to return to Corio.</td>
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<td>29 November</td>
<td>Yarra River flooded. La Trobe went by boat from the Bluff (Emerald Hill) over the fences of the cricket ground to the Custom House.</td>
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<td>29 November</td>
<td>Ship Royal George arrived in Melbourne.</td>
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<td>20 December</td>
<td>He rode via Rocky Waterholes and Beveridge's to Kilmore, then</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 December</td>
<td>via Pyalong to Baynton's, to Barfold, and</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 December</td>
<td>to Powlett's near Macedon.</td>
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<td>1850</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 January</td>
<td>La Trobe visited the gold-mine in the Pyreneen Range.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 January</td>
<td>To Geelong till 13th.</td>
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<td>17 January</td>
<td>To Kyneton, Bucknall's Hall's; on this journey he saw the gold-finder's hut.</td>
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<td>19 January</td>
<td>To Decameron.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 January</td>
<td>With Wright and Cameron he climbed Ben Nevis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 January</td>
<td>With Powlett he visited numerous stations, finishing at Buckra Bagnall.</td>
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<td>22 January</td>
<td>He then went to Coombatook, Lake Bael Bael, Reedy Lake;</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 January</td>
<td>to Lake Boga, then Swan Hill.</td>
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<td>26 January</td>
<td>The expedition continued to Pyramid Hill, Mount Hope, Terrick Terrick.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-29 January</td>
<td>With horses lost and the heat extreme, La Trobe and his companions travelled on, close to exhaustion.</td>
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</table>
31 January  Reached Kilmore. He had set out from Melbourne with 4 servants and 10 horses; all that remained were 2 'tired hacks'.
8-10 March  Via Geelong, Colac to Niel Black's station, then to Muston's Creek; travelling with Dana,
11 March    to Mount Sturgeon Inn;
13 March    to Hall's Gap, Mount Dryden, Mount Drummond.
14 March    He climbed to the summit of Mount William;
15 March    left Ledcourt and travelled to Wright's by the Little Wimmera.
17 March    Attended Sunday service at Decameron station; Bishop Perry's visit.
18 March    Began the homewards journey past Mount Cole and Mount Langi Ghiran.
1 May       Laid the foundation stone of the Geelong Infirmary and Benevolent Asylum, later known as the Geelong Hospital.
5 August    Queen Victoria gave Royal assent to the Imperial Act which separated Port Phillip from New South Wales.
24 October  La Trobe went to Dandenong and Cape Schanck;
25 October  to Mount Eliza, McCrae and Dandenong.
11 November Nicholson, mayor of Melbourne, told La Trobe that the English Parliament had passed the Separation Bill. Celebrations begun.
15 November La Trobe declared Prince's Bridge open.

1851
1 January    La Trobe appointed Lieutenant-Governor of new colony of Victoria as from 1 July.
9-11 January Heidelberg, Kangaroo Ground and Yering visited.
13 January    Separation Act proclaimed, creating the Colony of Victoria.
6 February   Mr Justice A’Beckett swore La Trobe in as Lieutenant-Governor.
22 February  Left for Sydney; returned on 10 May.
5 July       Payable gold found at Anderson's Creek (Warrandyte) and Clunes.
15 July      Lonsdale appointed Colonial Secretary for Victoria.
20 July      Gold found at Mount Alexander.
   - August   Gold licence fee of 30 shillings monthly was imposed.
2 September  Official visit to Geelong as Governor (until 5th).
2 October    La Trobe at Buninyong and Ballarat until 8th - first visit to the goldfields.
8 October    Mount Alexander goldfield proclaimed; Frederick Powlett in charge.
22 October   La Trobe departed from Mount Alexander goldfield.
24 October   At Forest Creek diggings, south of the mount.
25 October   Travelled with the Gold Escort to Mitchell's station with Powlett.
11 November  Victoria's first Legislative Council met in Saint Patrick's Hall, 470 Bourke Street.
19 November  Castlemaine named, apparently on La Trobe's suggestion.
1852

6 January Licence system to be enforced on goldfields. Unsuccessful attempt to raise the fee to £3 this month.

10 February Supreme Court established.

19 February With Dana, La Trobe went to Yering to see Paul de Castella.

20 February La Trobe appointed William Wright as Chief Goldfields Commissioner with his headquarters, for Victoria's new Gold Department, at Castlemaine.

13 April La Trobe departed for another goldfields tour; he reached

15 April Brown Hill diggings; then visited

16 April Ballarat, Creswick and Clunes diggings;

17 April The Loddon and Forest Creek.

19 April At Forest Creek he encountered Alexander Tolmer, leader of the South Australian Gold Escort.

20 April La Trobe rode to Friar's (Fryer's) Creek; then to Kyneton with Dana and Commissioner Wright; and

23 April climbed Mount Alexander.

25 April At Bendigo goldfield with Commissioner Gilbert.

26 April At Bendigo goldfield with Commissioner Clow, Commissioner Wright Bell and Dana.

27 April To the McIvor diggings (Heathcote).

28 April To Seymour and then Avenel.

30 April He reached Wangaratta with Bell, Dana, Smythe;

1 May visited Reid's Creek and May Day Hills goldfields; then

2 May to Faithfull’s, and Benalla on the way home.

20 November At Ballarat, he visited Eureka and Creswick diggings.

24 November At Forest Creek diggings.

25 November At Bendigo with Captain Bull; White Hills and White Hawk diggings inspected.

26 November To Sawpit Gully (Elphinstone) and Carlsruhe on the way home.

19 December At the Quarantine Ground, Point Nepean; the Ticonderoga passengers quarantined.

21-22 December La Trobe rode to Settlement Point, Balcombe's, Hunter's and Davis, and 'to the Inn late'.

23 December He called at Mordialloc on the way home.

31 December La Trobe despatched his resignation to England.

1853

1 January La Trobe appointed William H.F. Mitchell to be Chief Commissioner of Police.

11 January The Public Library and the University of Melbourne were established.

18 February La Trobe’s ailing wife Sophie, their three children, governess Mademoiselle Béguin and a maidservant boarded the Blackwall in Hobson’s Bay for their return journey to Europe;
1853

22 February  The Blackwall sailed from Hobson’s Bay, with La Trobe aboard to get ‘everything comfortable’ for his family;

25 February  He landed at Shortland’s Bluff and from the lighthouse watched the ship for ‘more than an hour before I quite lost sight of her’.

15 April  La Trobe departed for the Pyrenee Ranges.

16 April  He was at Ballarat with Fenwick, Sherrett, Hamilton, Babington.

18 April  At Creswick’s Creek, Coghill’s Creek, Clunes goldfield.

19 April  At Daisy Hill where he saw the ‘gold discovery 1848’; then Burn Bank, the Amphitheatre to Decameron.

21 April  With Captain J. Le M. Carey, he climbed Ben Nevis.

23 April  Glenwylln station (Davies’).

24 April  At the Avoca River; he saw Moliagul in the distance.

26 April  At Korong goldfield with Carey and Reid.

30 April  He toured Bendigo goldfields with Panton and Armstrong;

30 April  to McIvor (purchased a rare crystalline gold nugget), the McIvor Inn and Pick and Shovel Inn; to Pyalong and Ferguson’s;

- June  La Trobe named Shortland’s Bluff, Queenscliff.

26-29 July  He sent a privately printed circular to early settlers requesting a first-hand record of the settlement of the colony.

20 September  Laid the foundation stone of the Geelong Railway Terminus. Work was begun on the Melbourne-Hobson's Bay railway.

28 October  To Queenscliff.

31 October  To Capel Sound and Settlement Point.

26 November  Visited Capel Sound, Arthur’s Seat and Queenscliff localities in the Corsair during 26-30 November.

15 December  Draft Constitution for Victoria was presented to the Legislative Council.

28 December  Presented with a golden testimonial vase, also referred to as a cup, made by Bond and Tofield at a farewell ball in Melbourne. It weighed 170 ounces (4.82kg) and cost 1,000 guineas (£1,050).

31 December  Auction of La Trobe dairy farms (400 acres, 162 hectares) near Queenscliff. All 12 were apparently sold by the end of April.

1854

21 January  La Trobe went to Yering.

28 January  With Carey to Geelong; he had dinner with Claud Farie, Taddy Thomson and others.

30 January  With Carey to Queenscliff.

Sophie La Trobe died at Neuchâtel.

17-21 February  On the Pacifico to Quarantine Station and Capel Sound.

6 March  With Stawell he rode to Yan Yean, Mount Disappointment and Reservoir – 'My last good ride in Australia'.

24 March  Constitution Bill passed by the Legislative Council.

27 April  La Trobe read Sophie’s death notice in the London Morning Post newspaper of 8 February, and a few days later

1 May  received family letters telling him of her death.
1854

May

c.5 May

Approved the creation of Royal and Princes Parks from a large tract of land previously reserved for recreation purposes.

6 May

La Trobe on steamship *Golden Age* sailed through the Heads, 14 years, 7 months and 6 days after he arrived in Port Phillip.

22 June

Sir Charles Hotham arrived in Melbourne.

1855

- La Trobe in London.

- Received from the people of Victoria a silver candelabrum testimonial made in London by Smith, Nicholson and Co.

14 March

Presented to Queen Victoria by Sir George Grey, late Secretary of State for the Colonies, at a St James’s Palace levee.

27 March

Admitted to the Athenaeum Club, Pall Mall, London.

June

27 June

Received by Queen Victoria at a St James’s Palace levee.

- August

Sophie La Trobe's memorial tablet shipped in the *Hebonheath* for Melbourne, for placing at St Peter’s Eastern Hill.

October

3 October

Charles La Trobe married Rose Isabelle de Meuron, née de Montmollin, widowed sister of Sophie, in Neuchâtel.

- December

Moved to Ightham Mote in Kent.

31 December

Death in Melbourne of Sir Charles Hotham, La Trobe's successor.

1856

- La Trobe wrote the manuscript of 'Australia: Memoranda of Journeys, Excursions and Absences 1839-54'.

May

7 May

Received by Queen Victoria at a St James’s Palace levee.

- Mid May

Moved to Addington Vale, Addington near Maidstone, Kent.

September

3 September

Margaret Rose La Trobe was born at Addington.

1857

March

First land sales took place at Jolimont.

April

30 April

Departed from Addington Vale and spent the summer in Switzerland.

1858

- La Trobe living largely in Switzerland.

February

He sold a rare crystalline gold nugget, weighing 23 ounces or 717 grams, to the Natural History Museum, London, for the sum of £157.10s.

June

9 June

Isabelle Castellane Helen La Trobe was born at Greng, Switzerland.

September

18 September

Moved to Whitbourne Court, Whitbourne, near Worcester.

November

22 November

La Trobe was appointed Companion of the Order of the Bath, for civil service of the highest calibre.

1859

March

2 March

Presented to Queen Victoria by Edward Bulwer Lytton, Secretary of State for the Colonies, at a St James’s Palace levee on appointment as Companion of the Bath.
1860
11 May  La Trobe arranged to forgo remittances for six months, to help build up his investments in Victoria for his old age and the sake of his dependants.

1862
- July  Sight of his left eye began to deteriorate.
21 August  Auction of elegant household furniture and effects at Jolimont.

1865
-  -  Jolimont was further sub-divided.
-  -  A silver presentation vase made in London in 1864 by Hunt and Roskell is believed to have been presented to La Trobe.
22 June  England's Colonial Governors (Pension) Bill was amended to provide a one-third pension for La Trobe of £333.6s.8d a year, based on the lowest salary received during his last four years in Victoria.
12 October  Sight of his right eye badly diminished; he was now practically blind.

1866
14 February  At Jolimont the allotment containing the main cottage was sold.
31 December  Departed from Whitbourne Court, Worcester and lived in London, at Worcester Park, Kingston-on-Thames, and then at Upper Gore Lodge (Lady Franklin’s), Kensington, London W.

1867
18 September  La Trobe moved to Clapham House, Litlington, near Eastbourne, Sussex.

1871
- June  Last land sales took place at Jolimont.

1872
19 March  La Trobe sent letters of Victorian early settlers to his agent, James Graham, to be given to ‘say the Public Library or other Public Archives’. They were later published as Letters from Victorian Pioneers.

1874
- May  Charles Albert La Trobe arrived in Melbourne on a visit from England.
26 August  Isabelle La Trobe died, aged 16.
19 October  Agnes Louisa La Trobe married Comte Pierre de Salis-Soglio of Neuchâtel.

1875
20 February  Charles Albert La Trobe departed from Melbourne on the Nubia.
4 December  Charles Joseph La Trobe died, aged 74. He was buried at Litlington.
1876
- February  Rose La Trobe departed from Clapham House and by July had returned to her native Neuchâtel.
12 September  Charles Albert La Trobe married actress Carlotta Addison.

1878
30 June  Memorial chapel to La Trobe inaugurated at Neuchâtel. It had been built by Rose La Trobe in memory of her husband and also of their daughter Isabelle.

1883
16 January  Rose La Trobe died in Neuchâtel, aged 61.
17 July  Mary Cecilia (Cécile) La Trobe married Georges Godet, Professor of Theology and History, Neuchâtel.
-  Eleanora Sophia La Trobe continued to live in Eastbourne, Sussex.